

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ISLAMA 11138 140519Z
ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 FEA-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00
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FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4627

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CORRECTED COPY (TEXT)

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ENRG, MNUC, TECH, PK
SUBJECT: GOP CONFIRMS INFCE WORKING GROUP MEMBERSHIP AND ASKS TO
CO-LEAD GROUP FOUR

REF: ISLAMABAD 11088

1. ADDITIONAL FOREIGN SECRETARY NIAZ NAIK CALLED ACTING
POLCOUNS TO MFA NOVEMBER 13 TO CONFIRM GOP WILL OFFICIALLY
REQUEST INCLUSION IN THE FOLLING INFCE WORKING GROUPS:
(1) FUEL AVAILABILITY, ((3) ASSURANCES OF LONG-TERM TECHNOLOGY
SUPPLY, (4) REPROCESSING, AND (5) FAST BREEDERS, NAIK SAID
THAT MFA IS INSTRUCTING ITS EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON TODAY TO
SO INFORM AMB SMITH'S OFFICE. HE ADDED THAT GOP SHOULD HAVE
FINAL LIST OF PAK TECHNICAL REPS TO THE WORKING GROUPS IN
NEXT SEVERAL DAYS. THE GOP INTENDS TO HAVE REPS REMAIN ON
THE SAME WORKING GROUPS FOR THE DURATION OF INFCE.

2. NAIK THEN SAID HE WANTED TO RAISE "A DELICATE MATTER".
HE NOTED THAT PAKISTAN HAD DECIDED ONLY AT THE LAST MINUTE
TO PART 80-53 IN INFCE AND CONSEQUENTLY DID NOT HAVE
AN OPPORTUNITY TO STUDY COMPLETELY THE PROGRAM'S ORGANI-
ZATION. AFTER A COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW, THE GOP HAD DECIDED,
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DURING A MEETING NOVEMBER 11 " AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL", THAT
IT WOULD ASK TO BE A CO-LEADER FOR WORKING GROUP FOUR-
REPROCESSING.

3. NAIK SAID THE GOP WAS MOTIVATED BY SEVERAL CONCERNS.
NOW THAT IT HAS DECIDED TO PARTICIPATE IN INFCE, PAKISTAN
WANTS TO MAKE AS POSITIVE AND USEFUL A CONTRIBUTION AS

POSSIBLE. ITS ABILITY TO DO SO WOULD BE ENHANCED THROUGH A CO-LEADERSHIP ROLE. ALSO, AMONG THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, PAKISTAN HAS A RELATIVELY SOPHISTICATED UNDERSTANDING OF NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY AND BELIEVES IT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE TO CO-LEAD ONE GROUP. FINALLY, ISLAMABAD HAS NOTED THAT GROUP FOUR HAS ONLY TWO CO-LEADERS, BOTH FROM THE DEVELOPED WORLD, AND BELIEVES A "BETTER BALANCE" WOULD BE STRUCK IF IT WERE ALLOWED TO CO-LEAD AS WELL. NAIK STRONGLY IMPLIED THAT, IF ACCEPTED, GOP WOULD NAME PAKISTAN ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION CHAIRMAN MUNIR KHAN AS PAK CO-LEADER.

4. NAIK SAID THAT HE WILL ASK HIS EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON TO PURSUE THIS QUESTION, EITHER WITH AMBASSADOR SMITH'S OFFICE OR WITH JOE NYE, IN AS "DISCREET AND LOW-KEY A MANNER AS POSSIBLE". HE ASKED THAT WE INQUIRE AS WELL AND EMPHASIZED THAT HE WOULD LIKE PAKISTAN'S REQUEST TO BE CLOSELY HELD TO AVOID EMBARRASSMENT IN CASE GOP CANNOT CO-LEAD. HE ALSO NOTED THAT ISLAMABAD WOULD NOT WANT ITS REQUEST TO BECOME A DIVISIVE ISSUE WITHIN INFCE AND HGMES IT CAN BE ACCEPTED IN A BUSINESS-LIKE AND NON-CONTENTIOUS MANNER. HE SAID THAT ANY INFORMATION WE WOULD BE ABLE TO PASS BACK TO HIM, ON WHETHER PAKISTAN CAN BE ACCEPTED AS CO-LEADER, WOULD BE APPRECIATED. ACTING POLCOUNS SAID EMBASSY WOULD CONVEY MFA'S REQUEST TO WASHINGTON AND SEEK GUIDANCE. CONFIDENTIAL

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Message Attributes

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